

Idaho Geospatial Committee

August 20, 2009, Meeting Minutes

(Approved October 15, 2009)

The August 20, 2009 meeting of the Idaho Geospatial Committee was held in the East Conference Room of the Joe R. Williams Building, 700 West State Street, Boise, Idaho.

ATTENDANCE

Members/Designate(s) Present:

Nick Nydegger, Chair, Idaho Military Division
Stephen Cox, Idaho Department of Agriculture
Gail Ewart, Idaho Geospatial Office
Sean Harwood, USDA Forest Service (phone)
Dennis Hill, City of Pocatello
Diane Holloran, HDR Engineering (phone)
Cindy Lou McDonald, Bureau of Land Management (phone)
Donna Phillips, City of Hayden (phone)
Scott Van Hoff, U.S. Geological Survey (phone)
James Zehner, Idaho County (phone)

Alternates:

Keith Weber for Nancy Glenn, Idaho State University (phone)

Others Present:

Sally Brevick, Office of the CIO
Walt Bulawa, Idaho State Tax Commission
Michael Ciscell, Idaho Dept. of Water Resources
Chris Clay, Idaho Department of Lands (phone)
Ross Dodge, Community Planning Assoc
(COMPASS)
Joe Johns, Kootenai County Assessor's Office
(phone)

Anne Kawalec, Ada County Assessor's Office
Jerry Korol, Natural Resources Conservation
Service (phone)
Bill Masters, GIS Quality Design & Consulting
Georgia Plischke, Boise County Assessor's Office
(phone)
Jeff Servatius, Idaho State Tax Commission
Bill Reynolds, Nez Perce County (phone)
Tyson Taylor, BSU/Geospatial Research Facility

APPROVALS

Motion: Donna Phillips moved and Diane Holloran seconded a motion to approve the June 18, 2009 minutes, with amendments as provided by Gail Ewart; the motion passed unanimously.

(http://idaho.gov/itrmc/committees/igc/minutes/2009/20090618_IGC_minutes.pdf)

REGIONAL RESOURCE CENTERS

Gail advised the committee that she had received two proposals, from Northern and Eastern Idaho. Gail noted that a third proposal had been received but it was non-conforming. It was hoped that South West and South East Idaho would still submit proposals and Gail would then consolidate the information to provide a basis upon which to build a plan for regional resource centers.

<http://gis.idaho.gov/IGO/stratplan.htm> (under Plans)

The email calling for proposals to be submitted will be re-circulated, along with a breakdown of the salient points from the Business Plan, as provided by Donna Phillips. The Business Plan can be referenced for further information regarding funding.

<http://gis.idaho.gov/IGO/stratplan.htm> (under Plans)

STANDARDS POLICY STATUS

The policy on Framework Standards Development was discussed at the previous meeting. The document has since been formatted to meet the standard ITRMC layout for policies; however the content has not been altered. Gail will be presenting Policy 5030 for approval at the next ITRMC meeting on August 26. Subject to ITRMC approval, the policy will be effective from September 1, 2009.

GOVERNANCE TRANSITION

An updated draft of the Governance Transition Plan was shared, the only change being the assigning of tasks under Phase I.

(<http://idaho.gov/itrmc/committees/igc/minutes/2009/Augustattach/GovTransPlan2.pdf>)

Gail is working on a draft Executive Order. Further discussion centered around the charging of fees for membership on the council. The Chair encouraged feedback outside of this meeting as to the advantages or disadvantages and the subject will be addressed again, possibly at the next committee meeting. Feedback was also encouraged regarding the wider scope of the Transition document, such as the list of decisions still to be made.

CADASTRAL LEGISLATION STATUS

Gail reported that, over the past several weeks, the cadastral leadership (Anne Kawalec, Jeff Servatius, Craig Rindlisbacher, Donna Pitzer, and Gail Ewart) had initiated a statewide conversation among county elected officials and other key groups to introduce an idea for funding the cadastral framework. Five of six district meetings around the state had been attended by the leadership in order to present the idea and receive feedback.

To date, three ideas for funding have been put forward:

- a) Add a recording fee to documents.
- b) A parcel verification fee could be collected by title companies and shared back. Tom Katsilometes, Commissioner on the Idaho State Tax Commission, has been receptive to this idea and has offered to house the program at the State Tax Commission.
- c) Assess a one or two dollars per parcel on tax bills.

Anne and Gail had met with the Clerks and Recorders at their annual conference the day prior to this meeting and the overall feedback was that they did not want anything added to their burden.

The idea of assessing a dollar or two per parcel on tax bills seems unworkable because if someone does not pay this minimal amount, their property could be foreclosed which is a significant concern.

The next step is to talk to the private sector and a couple of State commissions to obtain their input.

Dennis Hill suggested approaching the Association of Idaho Cities to see whether they would be willing to collect a fee to support their own mapping programs. Gail encouraged everyone to send any funding ideas to the cadastral leadership group in order to keep this statewide conversation moving forward. Anne commented that the Governor was interested in this matter and efforts to progress this should be

maintained. Dennis made a further suggestion that Gail approach the Idaho Land Title Association at an annual meeting to discuss these ideas and to obtain their feedback.

ISDI BUDGET STATUS

Nick advised that progress had been made towards providing an allocated budget to an entity in the State of Idaho that is responsible for and can facilitate the enhancement and integration of geospatial technologies in the State. Gail explained that there is an ISDI budget request under the Department of Administration for \$550,000 which includes core state funding for ISDI activities and includes funding for the regional resource centers, seed funding for Framework data development, pilot projects, some outreach, and some capital purchases for technical architecture primarily for INSIDE Idaho. There had previously been an item for \$40,000 for hiring a Framework Coordinator, but this has since been removed and another means of funding found.

NAIP IMAGERY COOPERATIVE STATUS

A handout was shared which was dated in July and shows the work almost completed.

(<http://idaho.gov/itrmc/committees/igc/minutes/2009/Augustattach/NAIP.pdf>)

Three NAIP compressed county mosaics (CCM) have already come in and are being checked by the quality control stewards. The rest should be completed by September 30 and the final product will be made available in as many ways as possible.

ROADS PROJECT STATUS

Nick commented that Scott Van Hoff had helped to provide funds earlier this year and the funds had been used to improve the processing of data. More counties had also been brought on board and there was more information online.

<http://insideidaho.org/geodata/frameworkPilot/transportation/>

PUBLIC SAFETY

Gail advised that USGS offered an opportunity to submit proposals for structures stewardship planning and design. The Public Safety TWG leadership wrote a proposal, and was awarded \$25,000. Eric Smith is the Structures Workgroup lead under Public Safety and Gail is administering the grant. The performance period ends September 30, 2010.

Gail advised that Col. Shawver, Director of the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security, has agreed that the Bureau of Homeland Security will steward the creation of a single cohesive structures data set.

Development will require a collaborative effort by all of the public safety stakeholders. A discussion followed regarding requirements for structure type. It was noted the USGS was currently looking for only nine structure types. Building a sustainable stewardship methodology for structures data is the goal. A draft structures dataset standard will be out for comment and contributions soon.

Dennis Hill raised a question about the 911 funding we were expecting. Gail clarified that a determination had been made at the federal level that the funding for the mapping component would not be available until all 911 centers were upgraded to Phase 2. This is estimated to occur in one to two years time for Idaho. Gail explained that in the meantime, some of the structures activity, road center lines and the framework coordinator position for five years, will be funded through a national broadband mapping and planning grant. Applications have been submitted by various states to a single designated entity, there is an aggressive timeline with grant opportunities being funded by September 30 and the first product being due on November 1.

LOCAL ACTIVITY REPORTS, PROJECT NEWS AND NEW BUSINESS

Half Meter NAIP was discussed at the last meeting but Gail advised that we were unable to make that happen this time around.

GIS Week is taking place in Boise from October 27 to 30. Registrations are open for the workshops and there will also be meetings and forums. Visit <http://giscenter.isu.edu> for more information.

Dennis Hill reported on web updates in the City of Pocatello. Information on flood zones, zoning and a web enabled 911 application are now available on the web. A city utility application is also in use on their intranet.

Bill Masters commented that his business, GIS Quality Design and Consulting, had just become an ESRI business partner.

Michael Ciscell advised that Water Resources had started up the North Idaho Adjudication, beginning in Kootenai County. An online application is now available for claimants of water rights, which includes a mapping component for the points of conversion and the places of use. Of the estimated 3,000 applications received, about a quarter has been submitted online. Michael also noted that the National Hydrographic Data (NHD) set is under further development. The water delivery infrastructure within companies will be defined and incorporated into the NHD, and also new names for canals.

Anne Kawalec informed the meeting that recording of subdivisions and lots were down about 60% from last year, which in turn were down from the previous year. Ada County is in the process of migrating their parcel basemap into a Cadastral Fabric. The County has been working as a beta site for the 9.4 ESRI Cadastral Editor (CE) tools within the Survey Analyst software. They attended the 9.4 CE Holistic Testing for the software in the spring in Redlands, CA and they have been asked to attend the second testing in December. Thanks go to Jeff Barrett and Bryant Ralston of ESRI for all their support.

Tyson Taylor reported that BSU/Geospatial Research Facility (GRF) is now ESRI-authorized to teach ArcGIS Desktop II, Tools and Functionality and the GRF is currently working on getting authorized for ArcGIS Desktop III, Workflows and Analysis. BSU has been awarded a geothermal grant which will consist of creating a National Geothermal Database. BSU is looking for GIS datasets and will be asking people in the state for geothermal related resources.

Ross Dodge advised that COMPASS has a Regional Geographic Advisory Board. Ross noted Ada and Canyon Counties are working to make the data from both counties function hand in hand. There is a committee meeting next week where data structures will be shared and a recommendation sought. COMPASS is partnering with Sage Community Resources and reaching out to the smaller communities to include them...

Gail Ewart noted that the first meeting of the Agency Stakeholder Group had taken place and a decision was made to comprehensively evaluate the enterprise license agreement opportunity with ESRI. Gail also noted that Inside Idaho forms part of the budget request for \$200,000.

Jerry Korol reported that the NRCS was continuing to update the statewide endangered species list.

Donna Phillips advised that, in relation to the water adjudication in Kootenai County, the City of Hayden assisted the City of Rathdrum with information required for the adjudication using LiDAR data that was collected as part of the City Green Grant. The City Green Grant was a cooperative grant between the Idaho Department of Lands, City of Rathdrum, Hayden, Post Falls, Coeur d'Alene and Kootenai County. It was a good demonstration of using collected data for more than one purpose. It was also a good example of cooperative team work as Rathdrum was unable to manipulate the very large datasets. Donna Phillips further informed the meeting that the Northern Rockies Chapter of the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA) was awarded the Chapter of the Year for 2009 because of the work undertaken with the conference.

Scott Van Hoff is expecting delivery of LiDAR data from the South fork of the Coeur d'Alene River, the 500 year flood plain and much of the North fork that was part of a FEMA post-disaster mitigation project in conjunction with the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security.

Cindy Lou McDonald told the meeting that:

The Bureau of Land Management's new half million acres of wilderness are available on INSIDE Idaho; Owyhee County no longer has any wilderness study areas so a revised wilderness study areas is also available. The 16 new wild and scenic rivers are also available at INSIDE. The BLM will soon publish a new Land Status dataset. The BLM is responsible for tracking all the federal parcels in the State of Idaho. They are researching deeds to identify land status and surface management. The dataset will be distributed to INSIDE Idaho when complete.

The first external Idaho BLM website is going live in December. It is under construction now. Once live, there will be 24 hour updates on all the fire perimeters burning in the state.

As of this month, the automated EGIS edits are updated nightly to the published data center and distributed to the 12 field offices, this is run mostly by Python script and there is a new full time, permanent GIS position being advertised to cover this area of work.

Cindy Lou's own job will be advertised this month as she will be transferring on October 1 to the Oregon State BLM Office, the Committee wished Cindy Lou all the best in her new position.

Gail Ewart told the meeting that she had met with Senator Crapo in Washington DC a year and a half ago and discussed with him the situation in Caldwell regarding the flood plains. After months of negotiations, there has been a resolution of the flood plain issue, and the city of Caldwell can continue with its revitalization project. This matter has been noted nationally as a good example of what can happen when the power of geospatial information is applied and why the ISDI is so necessary.

NEXT MEETING

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM; the next meeting of the Idaho Geospatial Committee is scheduled to take place on October 15, 2009. The meeting will be held in the East Conference Room of the JRW Building, 700 West State Street.

Respectfully submitted,



Sally Brevick, Office of the CIO